available for repayment at any time. If interest on these deposits is insisted on, one can imagine the time involved in working out the interest in the case of each deposit of Rs. 10.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether these deposits do not come to Rs. 24,000?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: Yes, but it is a sort of circulating money. It is the money which one cannot say belongs to 2,400 consumers only. It belongs by circulation to perhaps 4,000 consumers in the course of the year. One consumer might have ceased to be a consumer and another may have occupied the same premises.

With regard to the enquiry about Mr. Dorofeeff, it is outside the puview of my Department. I do not propose to make any observations.

As regards the deputation of an Assistant Engineer, about which my honourable friend Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai mentioned I know definitely, Sir, that a provision was made in the Budget for 1112. It was my intention, Sir, to depute an Assistant Engineer at that time. But what happened subsequently was this. It was at about the same time that we experienced diffculties in Pallivasal. The question of sending a man immediately was therefore not pressing. In the meantime, the activities of the Department expanded considerably, especially with the additional construction work in connection with the Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme, and the organization of my department had to be considerably increased due to the ereation of the Commercial Engineer' s place. On account of the fact that I had to take up the Commercial Engineer' s work myself, it was found desirable to create a place of another Executive Engineer. Experienced men in the Department were not available and there were very few Travancoreans also available at that time for being taken into the Department. In these circumstances, with a view to save money, I recommended to Government that this deputation need not be given effect to at that time. Moreover, it so happened that one Travancorean Engineering Graduate who had been abroad recently came back after undergoing training in hydro-electric stations in Switzerland and other places and he has been recently recruited by the Public Service Commissioner in a subordinate rank. He is now getting experience in the erection of the machinery at Pallivasal and the idea is to send him to Pykara Generating Station for getting experience in the actual operation of the plant there.

This I consider to be more economical to Government, though the original idea was strongly pressed by me. I do not mind saying that I had to revise my original proposal. With regard to the question of extending the supply of power from the Pallivasal Scheme from Quilon to Trivandrum and further south, I may state

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[Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon.]

that it will be taken up as and when conditions justify. We have to work out the scheme that is now projected in the first stage and see how far the demand gets popular. If the extension of the hydro electric power becomes justifiable, I think, it will definitely be the policy of Government to encourage the extension of the supply to areas even south of Trivandrum. It is hoped that when the Quilon thermal Station ceases to operate with the advent of the hydro-electric supply, all the generating plants available there could be utilised elsewhere. Although no difinite scheme has been prepared in this connection, this possibility can be kept in view and the suggestions made by the various members would be considered.

In regard to the rates for industrial power mentioned by Mr. Kadar Bhoy, I may say that the Electricity Regulation makes it clear that no discrimination should be shown to any consumer. The rates are applicable to one and all uniformly. But in hydro-electric schemes it is the usual practice to apply a lower rate to consumers within the vicinity of the generating Station and this practice is proposed to be followed here also.

With regard to supply of electricity to the villages, I may mention that a survey has been conducted in Shertallai, Mavelikara, Muttam, Karthigapalli, Haripad, Kayankulam, Thiruvalla, Chengannacherry, Pallom, Chengannur, Parur, Alwaye and other places which are in the vicinity of the power lines now being constructed.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: May I know whether Puthencruz is also included?

Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon: Puthencruz is not included, but it will be taken up when there is demand.

With regard to the question of payment meted out to Major Howard, I think it has been the subject matter of an interpellation and necessary figures have been furnished to Government.

President: The question before the House is that a sum not exceeding Rs. 32,11,054 be granted under demand V—Electricity and Telephone.

The motion was put and carried.

The grant was made.

DEMAND VI—WATER WORKS AND DRAINAGE DEPARTMENT.

Vastuvidyakusala C. Balakrishna Rao: Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 23,75,020 under Demand VI—Water Works and Drainage Department.

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Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Iyer : Sir, I support the demand. In doing so I wish to make a few observations. Yesterday when dealing with the demand on Public Health and Sanitation I pointed out the necessity of providing good drinking water for the people of Kuttanad. It was with great gratification I received the reply of the Director of Public Health that the Water Works Engineer is intent on providing water for the Kuttanad area by means of boring tube wells. I also see that two of them are going to be erected in the course of the next year. When the budget estimate for 1113 was presented to this House last year an amount of Rs. 35,000 was alloted for the purchase of machines required for boring. But this year I do not see that provision in the budget nor any provision for the purchase of that plant. From the reply given by the Director of Public Health yesterday I understood that the boring plant has not arrived yet and that it is expected early next year. I do not know how the Water Works Engineer will be able to take delivery of the plant without the necessary provision in the budget. I would like to be enlightened on that point by the Water Works Engineer.

The next point is in regard to the safe working of the Water Supply scheme in Kuttanad. I think it is absolutely necessary that Village Panchayats should be introduced in almost all the places where water facilities are to be supplied. A few months back in dealing with this question the Dewan Peishkar, Quilon had been to our place to discuss the matter with the people. There was a good congregation. The question as to whether they would be prepared to accept Village Panchayat was moved and almost all the people unanimously agreed to accept the establishment of a Village Panchayat for them, in the matter of getting good water. Now I do not know where the proposal stands. Unless there is hearty co-operation between the Water Works Engineer and the Revenue Department in this matter, the safe solution of the problem is far remote. Therefore I would request Government to see that we are given good water and at the same time for the safe working of the scheme for future years and to avoid further investments regarding the expenditure that will have to be incurred by Government that Village Panchayats be established along with providing good drinking water.

Mr. M. S. Anirudhan : Sir, I would like to offer a few remarks on this demand. It is very unfortunate that sufficient attention of Government is not drawn to the question of water supply in rural areas. In the year 1112 there was a proposal to supply water to some of the villages in Kuttanad as well as in South Travancore. But nothing substantial seems to have been

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[Mr. M. S. Anirudhan.]

done as yet in the matter. About the supply of water to Kuttanad regions my friend Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar has already spoken. There is urgent necessity for providing good water to those areas. It is a place of water everywhere but not a drop to drink. That is the position and therefore it is high time that something in that direction is immediately attended to.

In regard to the supply of water for the coastal regions of Karunagapally and Karthikapally this matter also was brought to the notice of Government and the same has not engaged the serious attention of Government. I appreciate that the Government do not deny the legitimate demands of the people in the matter of providing good drinking water for them. I wish the Government would take the necessary step in the matter as early as possible.

Mr. Kochikkal P. Balakrishnan Tampi : Sir, I rise to support the demand. In doing so, I wish to draw the attention to the Water Works Engineer to the necessity for providing good drinking water to hundreds and thousands of pilgrims, during pilgrimage season, that go to Sabarimala. As a representative of the pilgrims I think I am competent to say that the pilgrims are put to infinite difficulties for want of good drinking water and year by year the number of pilgrims increase to so abnormal a number. I have to state in this connection that not only no good water is available for drinking purposes but no bad drinking water is available in the hills. I am glad to note that the Government have deputed some engineers to look into it and I hope that at least for the next season the Government will have done something to relieve the sufferings of the public that go to the hills.

I wish to associate myself with all the remarks that have been given expression to by my friend Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar regarding the necessity for providing drinking water in Kuttanad. I am glad that the Government have done something for the people of the coastal regions of Karunagapally and Karthikapally. But as my friend Mr. Anirudhan pointed out that sufficient attention has not yet been paid by Government to supply water to a considerable group of people on the coastal regions. Of course drinking water is coming nearer and nearer to the coastal portions in some parts of those places because of erosions of the sea. So, it may be said in an ambiguous sense that water has come near the coastal regions and consequently water is available to them. I trust the Water Works Department will do something by putting up some pumps or some other devise to give water to the coastal population.

Without any disparagement to other departments I may say that all the people of the country and all parties of the legislature will congratulate Government on the very efficient working of this department. Whether at Alleppey or Nagercoil or Shencottah I

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am glad that the work is being expedited. There are no complaints either regarding the working of this department. No preferential treatment is given to any locality. In the matter of giving contracts too no irregularity takes place. The matter is being attended to with all expedition and with all expert skill of which the public of Travancore are really very proud. With these words I support the demand.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : Sir, the taluk of Parur is one of the most crowded places in Travancore. But unfortunately, most of that area is not having good drinking water supply. Though there is plenty of water available in Parur all that is dangerous water. At the same time there is the Alwaye river flowing through the Parur taluk in several branches. It is a pity that, in spite of such advantages, Parur is not supplied with good drinking water. The Government should avail themselves of the convenience offered by the river and supply the people of Parur with good water. Alwaye water is taken to Cochin and Ernakulam, I do not envy them. But I wonder why the people of Parur also should not be supplied with that water. I am speaking with special reference to Vadakkekara pakuthi were people are punished with bad water. It is a very rich and thickly-peopled part of Parur. I may also say that the supply of good water from the Alwaye river will not cost Government much comparatively only a small amount of money will be required to supply the people of Parur, especially of Vadakkakara with good drinking water. The water from the Alwaye river even without filteration will be very much superior to the water now available in most parts of the Parur taluk. I request Government to consider this matter and supply the people of Parur with good drinking water.

With regard to other taluks, Muvattupuzha and Kunnatnad God has blessed them with good water and salubrious air. Their complaint is only about the scarcity of water.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : I support the demand. I join with my honourable friend Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi in the views that he has given expression to regarding the afficient work done by the department. I would add that we are very fortunate in the choice of sites by Mr. Balakrishna Rao for the construction of bore wells which bring a good deal of gain to the Government. I would only say that the Drainage, the Water Works and the P. W. Departments may work in co-ordination with regard to at least certain matters which would facilitate the avoiding of these inconveniences. Some sort of scrutiny must be exercised in the misuse of pipes by the public as inconvenience may be created by irresponsible people who abuse these privileges by recklessly using the pipes and occasioning inconvenience to the public.

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Vastuvidyakusala C. Balakrishna Rao: The honourable member, Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar, drew attention of the House to the fact that there was a provision of Rs. 35,000 in the budget for 1113 and that there was no provision in the budget for 1114. I may mention that we provided Rs. 35,000 in the budget for 1113 for a boring plant but, because the plant could arrive only after the monsoon, we surrendered a certain amount, and so we have retained a certain amount for this year. As regards the further steps, Government are considering the details of the question and when they are settled, I am sure there will be no difficulty in providing funds for the same. We can also divert some amount if found necessary.

As regards the working of the Water Supply Scheme in Kuttanad, Mr. Ananthasiva Aiyar suggested the formation of village panchayats. However, that is a matter for another departmen and the Government.

The honourable member, Mr. Anirudhan, after referring to the water supply in Kuttanad, referred to the supply of water in South Travancore. Regarding the latter, an investigation has heen made for the last six months, and it is almost complete. An estimate is nearly ready, and it will be submitted to Government. The scheme is for the provision of about 360 wells in the taluks of Kalkulam and Vilavancode. After Government have considered the financial aspect of the scheme, funds will be provided and the work will be taken up. In this connection, for certain villages such as Muttam and Eraniel and Karingal market, the department has in view small pumping schemes.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: May I know the approximate amount required for that scheme?

Vastuvidyakusala C. Balakrishna Rao: I cannot give the member the correct figures. A sum of about Rs. 1½ lakhs may be required for 360 wells.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: May I know when that scheme will come into effect?

Vastuvidyakusala C. Balakrishna Rao: As I said, the estimate has to go to Government and after Government have considered the question and issued their final orders, funds will have to be provided, and thereafter execution of work will be begun.

The honourable member, Mr. Balakrishnan Tampi, spoke about the water supply to the pilgrims going to Sabarimala for Makaravilakku. This question has been engaging the attention of Government, and I hope Government will be in a position to do something in the matter very soon.

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